

Message Text

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16

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-10 CEA-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01

TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01 /114 W

----- 082706

R 070729Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5234

AMCONSUL BRISBANE

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL PERTH

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY GENEVA

UNCLAS CANBERRA 1498

EO 11652: NA.

TAGS: ETRD, AS.

SUBJ: TEXT OF GOA MARCH 4 TARIFF QUOTA ANNOUNCEMENT.

REF: A. CANBERRA 1496

B. STATE 050627.

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF REQUESTED REF (B):

QUOTE:

SPECIAL MINISTER OF STATE, MR. BOWEN, ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT, FOLLOWING CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS BY TEXTILES AUTHORITY WITHIN INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE COMMISSION IN ITS REPORT ON APPAREL: SECTION 2, THE GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED TO INTRODUCE TARIFF QUOTAS ON THE FOLLOWING PRODUCTS - MENS, YOUTHS, AND BOYS SUITS; MENS, YOUTHS AND BOYS COATS, OTHER THAN SKI

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JACKETS, RAINWEAR AND PARKAS; MENS YOUTHS AND BOYS

SHORTS; WOMENS, GIRLS, CHILDRENS AND INFANTS
OUTERGARMENTS EXCEPT SWIMWEAR; WOMENS GIRLS AND
INFANTS DRESSING GOWNS, KIMONOS AND BATH GOWNS; MENS
AND BOYS KNITTED DRESSING GOWNS, KIMONOS AND BATH
GOWNS; SWIMWEAR; AND BABIESS NAPKINS. TARIFF QUOTA
ARRANGMENTS ARE OUTLINED IN THE ATTACHMENT. MR.
BOWEN SAID DETAILS OF THESE ARRANGEMENTS, AS THEY
AFFECT INDIVIDUAL IMPORTERS, WILL BE CIRCULATED BY
DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE.

MR. BOWEN SAID THAT TARIFF QUOTAS WOULD APPLY TO THOSE
GOODS DETAILED ABOVE CLEARED FOR HOME CONSUMPTION ON
AND AFTER 1 MARCH 1975. HE RECALLED THAT WHEN THE
REFERENCE WAS SENT TO TEXTILES AUTHORITY ON 15 NOVEMBER
1974 AND LATER IN HIS STATEMENT OF 9 DECEMBER ON IMPORT
POLICY FOR 1975, THE PRIME MINISTER HAD SAID THAT SHOULD
THE NEED FOR URGENT ACTION EMERGE FROM INQUIRIES BY
INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE COMMISSION, GOODS ORDERED OVERSEAS
BUT NOT CLEARED FOR HOME CONSUMPTION AT THE DATE OF
ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANY ACTION WOULD BE SUBJECT TO TERMS OF
THE ACTION. THESE STATEMENTS ADVISED IMPORTERS TO
EXERCISE CAUTION IN PLACING ORDERS OVERSEAS AND IN
ENTERING INTO FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS ON SUCH ORDERS AS
IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO GIVE SPECIAL CONSIDERATION TO
OUTSTANDING COMMITMENTS. ACCORDINGLY THE GOVERNMENT HAS
DECIDED THAT ALL IMPORTS OF APPAREL MENTIONED IN THIS
ANNOUNCEMENT, INCLUDING APPAREL NOW IN TRANSIT OR IN
BOND, WILL ONLY BE ADMITTED AN ON-PENALTY DUTY RATES
UP TO THE EXTENT OF QUOTAS DETERMINED FOR INDIVIDUAL
IMPORTERS, BASED UPON THEIR IMPORT PERFORMANCE IN
THE TWO CALENDAR YEARS 1973 AND 1974.

POLICY ASPECTS OF TARIFF QUOTAS WILL BE RESPONSIBILITY
OF MINISTER FOR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY AND THE
ADMINISTRATION OF TARIFF QUOTAS WILL BE RESPONSIBILITY
OF MINISTER FOR CUSTOMS AND EXCISE.

MR. BOWEN SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS STILL EXAMINING WHAT
ACTION MIGHT BE TAKEN UNDER SOM ITEMS COVERED BY THE
REPORT. THE GOVERNMENT EXPECTS TO MAKE A FURTHER
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ANNOUNCEMENT ON THIS MATTER IN NEAR FUTURE AND RELEASE
OF REPORT WILL BE WITHHELD PENDING GOVERNMENT'S DECISION
AT THAT TIME.

MR. BOWEN SAID THAT ACTIONS BEING TAKEN OR CONTEMPLATED
WERE IN THE NATURE OF SHORT-TERM MEASURES OF ASSISTANCE
TO LCOAL INDUSTRY, PENDING RECEIPT NEXT YEAR OF REPORT
BY INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE COMMISSION ON LONG-TERM

PROTECTIVE REQUIREMENTS OF CLOTHING INDUSTRY. CONSEQUENTLY ANY FUTURE INVESTMENT DECISIONS BY LOCAL MANUFACTURERS SHOULD NOT BE BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT LEVELS OF ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THESE MEASURES WILL CONTINUE IN THE LONGER TERM. MR. BOWEN MADE THE POINT THAT ACTION BEING TAKEN WAS CONSISTENT WITH AUSTRALIA'S RIGHTS AND OBLIGATION UNDER THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE. END QUOTE.

2. SUBSTANCE OF ATTACHMENT CONTAINED PARA 2 REF (A).
HARROP

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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